Note - If we have last annual report please keep - this year was skipped

ANNUAL REPORT - 1956

SYRACUSE ASSOCIATION OF WORKERS

FOR

THE BLIND, INC.

THE LIGHTHOUSE
425 JAMES STREET
SYRACUSE, NEW YORK

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A Red Feather Agency

ANNUAL REPORT - 1956

Board of Directors

Allen C. Ritz	President
John Gross	Vice-President
Mrs. Katherine Allen	Secretary
Sanford Levine	Treasurer
Mrs. Elizabeth R. Locke	Executive Secretary

Directors

Mrs. Katherine Allen	Dr. Newton White
Roy Chamberlin	Mrs. William Kopel
Howard Clark	Forbes Tuttle
John Cook	Allen C. Ritz
John Gross	Mrs. David Gillette
Robert Gleland	H. Follette Hodgkins, Jr.
Roy deSauvore	Mrs. David Northrup
J. Richard Gertmann	Robert Uplinger
Mrs. Amelia Greiner	Marcus Wemer
John M. Hastings, Jr.	
Harvey Hastings	
Chester King	
Sanford Levine	
Dr. Searle Marlow	

Statistical Report

Total cases registered as of January 1, 1956	506
New Cases during year	74
Deaths	28
Cases becoming inactive or closed	40
Cases active as of January 1, 1957	512

Age Groups

Infants to 5 years	32
Age 6 to 20	32
Age 21 to 50	97
Age 51 to 65	86
Over 65	265

Residence Status

Rural	Out of County	Urban
166	12	334

Living Status

At Home	Convalescent Homes	Boarding Homes
1[illegible]	72	68
County Home	State School	State Hospital
28	6	2
Other Institutions		Address Unknown
20		4

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PRE-SCHOOL SERVICES

The school operated until December of 1956 with an average attendance of four children per week. The program had to be changed because only one child remained for the new school term. The plan was reorganized with a new format by the University, the Junior League and is now known as the Center for the Development of Blind Children. The program was considered very successful. As a result of the training and services, several children were placed in Kindergarten in public schools, sighted nursery schools and Percy Hughes sight saving class. Others were screened and referred to other agencies for necessary care.

NEW SERVICES

A hobby class was developed under the direction of a volunteer chairman and assistants from the Junior League. A class for men meets each Wednesday morning with an afternoon class for the ladies.

A new part time stenographer was increased from one day to an extra two half days - a total of two days a week.

Our work during the year has increased considerably. Our case load is larger and to keep abreast of the requests of our people, new services were added and others were strengthened.

To meet growing competition in the field of merchandising, many new articles have been added to our selection of articles we make, necessitating a larger inventory of both raw and made stock. Until we make sufficient articles for wholesale production and sale, this will continue to be a problem.

We have made real progress during the year, perhaps our best yardstick is the few complaints from our blind on the services we furnish and the compliments by the general public on the quality of work by workers at The Lighthouse.

Our work was assisted in many ways by generous donations to various funds by people interested in our Association through legacies, memorial funds, special contributions. Each gift was credited to the proper fund and will be used in due time for the purpose for which it was designated.

The allotment from the Community Chest was a small increase over the previous year, $26,424.00. Without this contribution we could not operate. It represents the interest and generosity of the many people who contribute to our Chest and who make the operation of agencies such as ours possible.

Sincere thanks to the many people who in any way contributed to assist us in serving our people so that life may be a little more pleasant and fruitful.

Respectfully submitted,
Elizabeth R. Locke
Elizabeth R. Locke
Executive Secretary